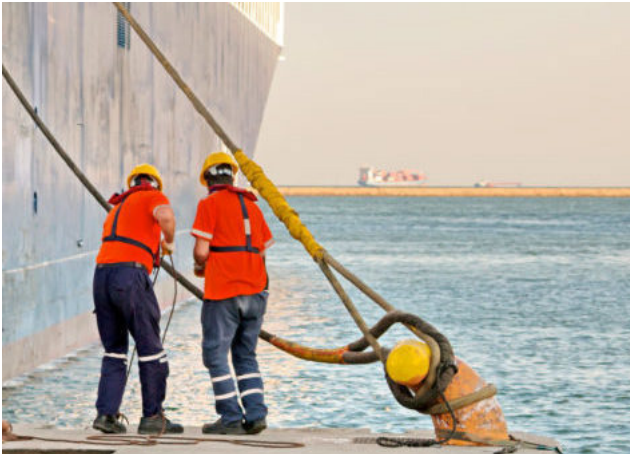




NEW SOLAS REQUIREMENTS ON SAFE MOORING

AMC NEWS
SEP2023/TECH/95



Following our News Circular 49 (August 2018), we would like to inform you that MSC102 recently adopted amendments to SOLAS Reg. II-1/3-8 and the Revised Guidelines on Shipboard Towing and Mooring Equipment" (MSC.1/Circ.1175/Rev.1). In addition, relevant guidelines in the form of MSC.1/Circ.1619 and 1620 were also approved. These SOLAS amendments come into force on 1 January 2024 and apply to all vessels under SOLAS regardless of their date of construction, except for certain provisions.

Requirements

All ships should be provided with Management Plans for inspection and maintenance of mooring equipment (including mooring lines) based on MSC.1/Circ.1620. These Management Plans shall include the following:

- **Procedures for mooring operations, inspection and maintenance** of mooring equipment, including mooring lines (MSC.1/Circ.1620 para. 3.1).
- **Procedures for identification and management** of mooring lines, tails and associated attachments (MSC.1/Circ.1620 para. 3.3).
- **Manufacturers' criteria for mooring line replacement** (MSC.1/Circ.1620 para. 4.3.1).
- **Records of mooring equipment inspections and maintenance**, and mooring line inspections and replacement. (MSC.1/Circ.1620 paras. 4.4.3 & 6.1).
- **Manufacturers' test certificates** for mooring lines, joining shackles and synthetic tails (MSC.1/Circ.1620 para. 6.2).
- **Records of the original mooring design concepts**, equipment, arrangements and specifications (MSC.1/Circ.1620 para. 4.4.4).

Timeline

For existing ships, the following actions are required by the first periodical survey of the Cargo Ship Safety Construction Certificate on or after 1 Jan 2024:

- Prepare relevant procedures, either as stand-alone, ship-specific Mooring System Management Plans (recommended) or as part of the SMS Manual.
- Determine the Ship Design MBL (MBLsd) for each vessel.
- Keep records of inspection and maintenance of mooring equipment and inspection / replacement of mooring lines.

During the first periodical survey (annual survey, intermediate survey or renewal survey) of the Safety Construction Certificate on or after 1 January 2024, the attending Class surveyor will verify that the relevant Management Plan is available onboard.

Compliance with SOLAS II-1/3-8 and MSC.1/Circ.1620 will be verified **only** through the onboard survey.

Recommendations

Owners / Operators / Managers are strongly encouraged to prepare their Mooring System Management Plans (MSMP) as early as possible. Having developed over 1500 MSMPs for all types of vessels, AMC has extensive experience in this field and may assist with the following:

- **Preparation of MSMP in accordance with SOLAS II-1/3-8 and MSC.1/Circ.1620.**
- **Ship Design MBL Calculation (as per MEG4 App. A).**
- Technical support and advice for preparing procedures / determining the Ship Design MBL.



For further information please contact:

Mr. Philip Tschlis: p.tschlis@alphamrn.com

Mrs. Dorothea Filippidi: d.filippidi@alphamrn.com